

## **Texas State Disaster Coalition**

October 20, 2016 Conference Call Notes

Melissa Hield welcomed the group and reviewed the antitrust statement.

2016 hurricane season: 2016 is the most active and costly hurricane season since 2012. There have been 16 tropical depressions and 14 named storms; of these storms, six were hurricanes and three were major hurricanes. Hurricane Mathew impacted five states and caused \$4 - 6 billion in damages. To date, 67,000 property claims, including flood, have been filed in Florida.

TDEM state hazard mitigation planning and hurricane evacuation workshop:

- FEMA requires all states to have a State Hazard Mitigation Plan, a comprehensive assessment of population and property, the hazards that threaten both, and strategies to mitigate those risks. The current plan will expire in October 2018, and TDEM is leading the planning effort to develop a new, comprehensive plan. State agencies including TDI are involved in the planning.
- In June, TDEM conducted a hurricane evacuation exercise that simulated a category 5 hurricane striking the Rio Grande Valley. The goal of the exercise was to assess how well the state can evacuate its citizens, shelter them, and bring them back home. It included a real-life air evacuation that moved exercise participants and volunteers from the Rio Grande Valley to shelters located in central and north Texas. State and local agencies will use lessons learned from the exercise to improve evacuation plans and training.

Reentry following a disaster: See TDEM's overview at <http://www.tdi.texas.gov/consumer/storms/hcoalition.html>.

Web resources for TSDC: Find more information and resources on TDI's disaster resource page at <http://www.tdi.texas.gov/consumer/storms/hcoalition.html>. Suggestions for additional information are welcome, please send an email and links to [melissa.hield@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:melissa.hield@tdi.texas.gov).

**2017 meeting schedule:** all meetings are at 1:30 p.m. Central time via conference call

- January 19
- April 20
- July 20
- October 19